

Electives

Each student in the College of Naval Warfare and the College of Naval Command and Staff is required to take one elective for credit each trimester. Electives are normally completed prior to the end of the trimester so that final exams in the core curriculum may receive full attention. Electives are designed to require about 20% of the student's workload (120 hours per trimester including class time). Electives normally meet for three hours on Wednesday or Thursday afternoons. Those who desire to take a second elective in the same trimester may do so on an audit (not for credit) basis. The choice of electives by students will be made each trimester, and every effort will be made to enroll students in their first elective choice. Should any course be oversubscribed, enrollment is determined by lottery in order to assure equal enrollment opportunity for resident and incoming students alike. See the Naval War College website for a full discussion of electives. With the permission of the elective faculty, spouses may audit elective courses.

Lectures/Auditorium Decorum

Each of the three core courses of instruction - JMO, S&P, and NSDM - use scheduled lectures as an important component of the total instructional effort. Spruance Auditorium is normally used for lectures, while Pringle Auditorium is used when lectures for CNW and CNC&S are given simultaneously. A bell is sounded six times in the foyer of Spruance Auditorium five minutes prior to lectures and twice one minute prior, to signal students of the commencement of scheduled lectures. Students should arrive for lectures 5 minutes early and be seated immediately to avoid walking into the auditorium after the lecture has commenced. To do so would be embarrassing to the student, discourteous to guest speakers, and distracting to fellow students. When unavoidably late, the Lecture Observation Room, #SP-112 (second room at the rear of Spruance Auditorium) will be used for entry and seating. Food is not allowed in any of the auditoriums. An exception has been authorized to permit closed beverage containers during daytime classes only. Additionally, please turn off all cell phones, pagers and PDAs during all lectures.

During the Strategy and Policy trimester, students normally spend two mornings per week in Spruance Auditorium. In order to locate students with minimum disruption and delay in the event of an emergency, student seating in Spruance Auditorium during the S&P trimester is organized by a seating plan. A seating chart will be posted on an easel located in Spruance Lobby. Again, this applies only during the Strategy and Policy trimester. The seating charts do not apply when both classes (CNW and CNC&S) are together in Spruance

Auditorium at the same time. There is no assigned seating in Pringle Auditorium.

Many lectures culminate in a question and answer period. When asking a question, students should use the microphones near each seat to transmit their questions over the loudspeaker system. When posing a question, students should stand and identify themselves (grade, name, service). Lectures are recorded for reference and use of this procedure eliminates unwanted anonymity and gives clarity to the question/answer process.

Research

Research is one of the primary student activities at the Naval War College. Course requirements in the core curriculum involve writing at least one research paper each trimester.

Individual and team research on professional topics of the students' own choosing may also be conducted on either a full or part time basis for one trimester. Qualified students selected by the Academic Research Council may do an Advanced Research Project (ARP) in lieu of the core curriculum for one trimester. ARP students are required to complete an elective during their ARP trimester. Historically, approximately 5 percent of CNW and CNC&S students do ARPs each year. Students may take a Directed Research Elective (DRE) as a substitute for a classroom elective in any trimester. DREs provide an excellent opportunity for prospective ARP students to do a literature review, build their research plan, and build an outline for the paper itself. For further discussion on research opportunities at the Naval War College, contact the Advanced Research Program Coordinator at (401) 841-2101, DSN prefix: 948.

Grading

As in any institution of higher learning, examinations and their resultant grades are used for several reasons. Most importantly, grades reinforce the learning process. They also provide the faculty a means of determining the degree to which course materials have been absorbed and understood, and provide direct feedback to the students.

Grades assigned by faculty for papers, exams, class participation, etc., are expressed either as letter grades and their numeric equivalents or as whole numbers and their corresponding letter grades. Final course grades will be expressed as the un-rounded numeric average along with the corresponding letter grades with pluses and minuses, as appropriate. Electives are graded on a pass/fail basis. The core curriculum (JMO, S&P, NSDM) is graded using the standards indicated on the table below.

The normal grade distribution is 35-45% A's and 55-65% B's and C's, based on historical data. Students must attain a grade of "C" or better in all the